

IAP16 Rec'd PCT/PTO 25 SEP 2006
10/594121

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

THORTON et al.

Atty. Ref.: **1328-35**

Serial No. **unknown**

Group: **unknown**

National Phase of: **PCT/NL2005/000222**

International Filing Date: **24 March 2005**

Filed: **September 25, 2006**

Examiner: **Unknown**

For: **PROCESS DOR GELATINISING STARCH USING A
BIODEGRADABLE POLYMER MATERIAL BEARING
ALDEHYDE GROUPS**

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September 25, 2006

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and in order to place the above identified application in better condition for examination, please amend as follows: